

AMATEUR RADIO

APRIL

1950

JOURNAL OF THE WIRELESS INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA

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EDITOR:

T. D. HOGAN, VK3HX,
Telephone: UM 1732.

MANAGING EDITOR:

J. G. MARSLAND, VK3NY.

TECHNICAL EDITOR:

J. C. DUNCAN, VK3VZ.

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL EDITOR:

A. K. HEAD, VK3AKZ.

COMPILATION:

R. W. HIGGINBOTHAM, VK3RN.

LIAISON:

I. K. SEWELL, VK3IK.

CIRCULATION:

S. I. ZEUNERT, VK3SZ.

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W. J. LEWIS,
20 Queen St., Melbourne, C.I.
Telephone: MU 5154.

**ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE
FOR N.S.W. AND QUEENSLAND:**

L. W. CRANCH,
Room 302, 17 Bond St., Sydney.
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EDITORIAL



THIS CONTEST BUSINESS

Federal Executive are at times called upon to express their opinions on behalf of the Wireless Institute of Australia when dealing with the I.A.R.U. in the matter of Contests in which the Australian Amateur may be involved. It is, of course, essential that these expressions should be based upon a correct evaluation of the general Amateur feeling on this matter.

The obvious way to do this would be to hold a poll, but while this matter is important, it does not at the moment warrant the expense involved. We, therefore, feel that a deviation from our general method of laying down a policy in these columns can be altered in this case to elicit comments in the form of a "quiz." Federal Executive consequently would like to know:

DO YOU THINK CONTESTS—

Are enjoyable?
Promote International friendship?
Encourage rare DX to come out of hibernation?
Populate the Amateur Bands to good effect?
Improve operating technique?
Encourage breaches of regulations regarding power?
Improve equipment design?
Develop certificate ego?
Depose common courtesy and Amateur manners?
Overcrowd already restricted bands?
Cause domestic strife?
Serve a useful purpose?
Develop mathematical genius?
Are too numerous?
Should be confined to the v.h.f. bands?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Your answers to these questions, either direct to the Federal Secretary or the Correspondence Column of this Magazine will be most helpful for the future guidance of your Federal Executive. No doubt many other aspects, not covered above, will occur to you when reading this, and any comments or suggestions will be appreciated.

Remember that only by your reactions to the above, can a correct and comprehensive formulation of opinion be obtained for the execution of future W.I.A. policy.

—Federal Executive.

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BY CECIL C. WARING,* VK3YW

plifier. This is possible because with the values shown, there is a bias of about 10 volts on the phase inverter.

The p.p. output from the 6SN7 is then fed via a pair of 0.004 μ F. condensers through a speech filter to the number three grids of the 6SA7 balanced modulators.

The filter, which consists simply of a 100,000 ohm resistor and a 0.0015 μ F. condenser in each audio lead, gives an attenuation of approximately 6 db per octave in the middle voice range, and converts the inherent phase modulation characteristic of the modulators with f.m., that is to say the deviation is essentially proportional to the amplitude of the modulating voltage, and does not increase with audio frequency as would be the case in true p.m.

The p.p. output from the filter is applied as noted to the number three grids of the 6SA7, and when one audio signal is driven positive, the other is negative. The r.f. output of the tube receiving the positive audio signal will be predominant and as a result there will be a shift in phase in the output circuit. Just how much will depend largely on the magnitude of the audio signal and the Q of the associated tank circuit.

A Q of 20 is a desirable figure, and this in turn demands a capacity of about 50 pF. for 3.5 Mc. As the output capacity of the 6SA7 is approximately 24 pF., it means a small value of condenser across the coil. This is not just academic theory, as a noticeable decrease in deviation was demonstrated with a higher value of condenser.

Condition 3 is well satisfied by this circuit, particularly on the audio side, and is probably due to the fact that there is no direct connection between the audio section and the related r.f. circuit and to the fact that the No. 3 grids are screened by grids No. 2 and 4 and by-passed to earth by the 0.0015 μ F. condensers.

In operation this exciter is followed by from two to four stages depending on the output frequency. Its own output is not very high and is normally link-coupled to an 807, which drives another 807 for 3.5 Mc. work, or other doubler tubes for higher frequency operation.

POINTS TO WATCH

A must for any n.b.f.m. signal is a clean carrier. Each stage should be checked for parasites and if any found, eliminated before any attempt at modulation is made. Apart from this, the only other item is to make sure each stage is tuned right on the nose.

On the audio side check the circuit for hum, as this will also do its own modulation; and in the case of doubling to higher frequencies, the hum volume will increase with the frequency. The audio line up as it stands is not subject to this trouble, however, owing to the small coupling condenser.

The r.f. stages following the exciter can be ordinary class C amplifiers or if you are troubled with harmonics, the lower harmonic output of the class B amplifiers are an attractive proposition.

Having got our clean and hum-free carrier, audio can be applied to the

exciter and the bandwidth checked. There is no need whatever to put the exciter on the air to do this, simply put the unit on the bench and tune the receiver to the operating band and adjust the deviation control until a satisfactory voice level is heard. On 3.5 Mc. this might be difficult unless the receiver is well shielded. Here a Class C Wavemeter is used and the bandwidth judged against the width of the unmodulated carrier. Final tests were then carried out on the air and checked up fairly well, so you will not be far out.

On 3.5 Mc. the deviation control is almost full on (about 80%); on 7 Mc. only 50%, and on 14 Mc. much less. It was originally intended to build up an audio oscillator and check the deviation as described in the "A.R.R.L. Handbook," but difficulty of getting delivery of coils has stopped that.

One point to be watched is overload or unbalance in the audio stages, which shows up as kicking meters, particularly in the grid circuit of the final.

Persistent distortion in the early tests was due to the plate and cathode resistors being far off the indicated values and resulted in one 6SA7 getting much more audio drive than the other. All meters should be rock steady—upward modulation is out.

The lack of b.c.i. is one of the items put forward on the credit side of n.b.f.m. and certainly reduces types of interference. N.b.f.m. certainly does reduce b.c.i. but it is no cure-all.

If b.c.i. is caused by harmonics of the b.c. receiver beating with the fundamental or harmonics of the transmitter, the spots will still get through. Their strength will depend largely on the selectivity of the b.c. set's i.f. If the b.c.i. is due to rectification effects caused by the shape of a modulated envelope, the trouble will certainly disappear. There seems to be no splatter and splutter as when one is too close to a strong a.m. phone station and it is quite possible to leave the receiver running while the n.b.f.m. transmitter is in operation and hear nothing from it in the speaker. This would be quite impossible to do on a.m.

RECEIVING N.B.F.M.

On the receiving side, n.b.f.m. transmitter are in a much better position than the boys using a.s.c. as any reasonably selective receiver will do a good job of work. If the receiver tuning is broad, the voice content of the signal will appear low, but such receivers seem to be very few and far between.

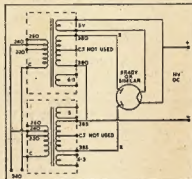
It was thought here that a n.b.f.m. discriminator would be a big improvement, but after careful listening with and without the discriminator there seemed to be very little in favor of its use.

With the n.b.f.m. permitted in our two domestic bands, the a.m. receivers do a really excellent job and no difficulty has been experienced in working through QRM or QRN. In most cases it was not realised at the receiving end that n.b.f.m. was being used, 75% of stations contacted had to be told, and to the writer's mind n.b.f.m. has many

H.V. Power Supplies

Many Hams are apparently overlooking a very useful way of obtaining a high voltage power transformer from standard b.c. parts. The idea is to connect the separate h.v. secondaries of two similar full-wave transformers as separate halves of a secondary of twice the voltage. A glance at the diagram will show how the h.t. for that 813 can be obtained from standard b.c. transformers.

The windings must be connected so as to feed the plates of the rectifier out of phase, otherwise the supply will merely be two half-wave rectifiers in parallel. To check this, connect an a.c. voltmeter between the points marked X. If it reads zero, switch off, reverse the connections to one primary or secondary, then switch on again. The voltmeter should now read a voltage which is twice that of one transformer.



These b.c. transformers normally come with a h.v. secondary of 385, 325 or 285 volts "aside." By using two transformers, 770, 650 or 570 volts "aside" can be obtained. The insulation between windings and to core in any reputable transformer is ample to stand up to this method of operation.

Here, at VK2OA, two 385-385 v. 125 Ma. b.c. transformers are being used to provide 850 v. at 125 Ma. to an 813 and still ran cold even after 24 hours continuous operation in the DX Contest, and they have been in operation now for over a year.—VK2OA, E. M. Winch, 38 Boundary St., Parramatta, N.S.W.

advantages which could be well followed up by the thoughtful Amateur.

This article has been written with the idea of stimulating interest in n.b.f.m. and the promotion of discussion thereon. It has been asserted that n.b.f.m. is only equivalent to an a.m. transmitter modulated 25%, maybe in theory it is, as after all the only source of power is the carrier and from the carrier is extracted the necessary power for the sidebands. In fact it is quite possible to reach a stage when the transmission is all sidebands and no carrier at all, but such conditions are not for n.b.f.m. However 25% a.m. equivalent or not, the n.b.f.m. is quite capable of putting as good a signal through QRM or QRN as any other type.

An Inexpensive Modulation Indicator

BY C. GIBSON,* VK3FO

The indicator to be described was the outcome of a few hours' spare time and use of some junk box bits and pieces. The modern receiver selectivity, with the addition of Q5'ers, pre-selectors, and crystal filters, still reveals that all is not right with a large number of Ham phone transmitters.

Lopsided modulation is the main cause of the trouble and in the absence of a c.r.o., or pan-adaptor, this indicator was evolved. This lopsided modulation is simply the result of improper operation of the transmitter, causing numbers of spurious sidebands to be radiated which occupy plenty of kilocycles beyond the frequency range a good phone signal should occupy, hence high selectivity is no proof against these sidebands.

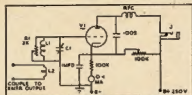
When the receiver is tuned to a station badly affected with this carrier shift, or over-modulation, these sidebands are identified by a peculiar kind of distortion that damages the quality of the phone, despite the fact there may be excellent microphone and speech equipment in the transmitter. We learn that for correct modulation, the average amplitude of the wave must remain unchanged; that is it should be the same with the carrier modulated, as it is for an unmodulated carrier.

Apart from a c.r.o. or pan-adaptor, no meter ordinarily used will give us a true indication of this condition. An r.f. meter will not do it, as it only shows effective current values and not average value; it will kick up when the average is actually shifting down. The final plate meter does, however, show something, by either kicking up or down when it should remain steady, but its indications are hard to interpret.

What we want is some simple and inexpensive device to show what is

happening to the carrier. As c.r.o.'s and pan-adaptors are expensive and sometimes hard to get going, we set out to see what could be done with a few parts from the junk box. To this end, we thought about a one-tube non-regenerative detector, or in other words a vacuum-tube voltmeter.

This gadget is easily constructed and very simple to use, and is worth a place in any shack.



L1 C1—Coil and condenser to tune to transmitter frequency (Plug-in coils).

L2 Coupling Coil—Two turns at ground end of L1.

R.F.C.—Short wave type.

J—Single circuit (closed type) for listening.

V1—6C5, 6J5, 56, 27, 409, etc.

Phones—High resistance type.

We know that the plate current is directly proportional to the average value of the r.f. input to the grid. If the average shifts upward, the plate current increases, or vice versa, so all we have to do is hook in this "gadget" and look, see and listen.

The resistor R3 makes it possible to set the minimum bias and also that the

tube draws almost zero current with no signal on the grid. Shielded leads should be used to couple the indicator to the transmitter output circuit.

The coupling at the transmitter end, and the resistor R1, are adjusted so that the meter reads about four- to five-tenths of one milliampere, assuming a plate voltage of 250.

The circuit, C1 L1, should not be detuned from resonance. Over-modulation is shown if the meter kicks upwards, hence back off the gain control on the modulator. If the meter kicks downwards, then look to the transmitter.

For best operation the unit should be enclosed in a metal box.

In all, this little unit is the answer to a simple, but highly, efficient modulation indicator.

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Type 51-101. Twist Lug—used for above chassis mounting by inserting lugs through slots and twisting to hold in position.

SPECIFICATIONS

1. Capacity Tolerance: — 10% + 40%.
2. Power Factor: 15% max.
3. Max. Operating Leakage: 0.1 mA/mfd.
4. Max. Operating Temp.: 145° F.
5. Electrolyte: Semi-dry.
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The "Steco" Again

BY R. J. WHYTE,* VK2AHM

One of the most popular v.f.o. circuits presented in "A.R." has been the "Steco" (series tuned e.c.o.). Here is a de luxe version incorporating the added refinement of crystal control.

Quite a number of Hams have written or asked for information over the air as to a more advanced version of the "Steco," as described in "A.R." for September, 1949. The writer hopes the circuit, as shown, will be of help to them and to others.

Since sending in that first circuit, the writer has been able to give this oscillator a still more thorough try out using both versions. In one thousand QSOs, there has not been one report of drift. Special reports were asked for on this until the request was tired of—nor has there been a single QRI report of less than T9.

Getting back to the circuit, looks complex doesn't it? The crystal is only a luxury though and is used primarily

compensation gadget comprising C5 and C6. It was put in "just in case," but C5 has always been at minimum capacity.

As the writer only uses the 40, 20 and 10 metre bands, L1 was made a fixture on 7 Mc. L2 could be the same, too, for it is not removed, C13 being sufficiently large to tune both 40 and 20 metres.

By adjustment of C3 any degree of bandspread may be obtained, although a high ratio vernier dial is used, the spread may be too great, even with C3 at maximum, in which a greater capacity could be used there. Personally, the writer uses a dial with a ratio of 2:1 and even direct drive would be quite ample.

The 750 pF. silvered mica condensers were used because they were on hand (ex Class C Wavemeter) and the 500 pF. ceramic, as in the original, would be quite in order.

Note that the grid condenser has been eliminated. It seems to give stronger oscillations without.

In construction, the whole of the grid circuit is contained in a heavy aluminium box with means for adjusting C2 through a hole in the side. This box is bolted to the side of the transmitter chassis, which chassis also holds the tube, L2 and C13.

It is hardly necessary to stress the fact that as in all v.f.o.'s, the wiring and construction must be rigid, only the best quality components used, and powered with a well filtered power supply.

Summing up, as a plain v.f.o., leave out C5, C6, C9, L3, the crystal and switches. If you want to be more elaborate, leave them in!

IGNITION NOISE SUPPRESSION

The following is a report from the E.R.A. (Empire Radio Authority) who have been conducting tests on this type of noise:—

"Tests made on a large number of vehicles have shown that the insertion of a single resistor of 5,000 to 10,000 ohms in the lead from the ignition coil to the distributor, and with the coil mounted on the engine block, will give satisfactory suppression in the great majority of cases. When additional suppression is required, it can usually be achieved by the insertion of resistors of similar value at the sparking plugs.

"Only in rare cases will additional resistors at the distributor end of the sparking plug leads be necessary. Controlled tests have shown that, in general, resistors, even of values very much higher than those envisaged for suppression, have no effect on engine performance and petrol consumption of the average motor vehicle."

(By courtesy "The Engineer," Oct. 1949.)

IONOSPHERIC PREDICTIONS FOR THE AMATEUR BANDS

APRIL, 1950

Nine of the charts, prefixed by the letter "C" for Canberra, refer to forecasts for the South-Eastern Australian States. The remainder, prefixed by the letter "P" for Perth, are for Western Australia.

The Canberra charts refer to the following world zones:—

Zone	Region	Terminal
1	Western Europe	London
2	Mediterranean	Cairo
3	N.-West America	San Francisco
3a	N.-East America	New York
4	Central America	Barbados
5	South Africa	Johannesburg
6	Far East	Manila

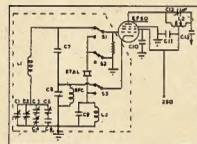
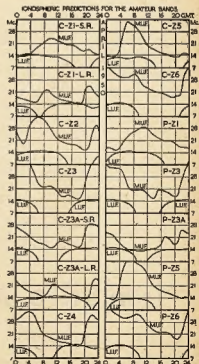
The Perth charts are similar to those based on Canberra.

QUIZ

The Prediction Service welcomes comments on the accuracy of its predictions. In particular, answers to the following questions on the Canberra-San Francisco circuit would be useful:—

1. Were good conditions experienced on 7 Mc. for the period 0600 to 1500 hours G.M.T.?
2. Was the 14 Mc. band workable from noon to 1800 hours G.M.T.?
3. Was the 28 Mc. band workable for several hours around midnight G.M.T.?

Answers to the Quiz should be sent to the W.I.A. and should, if possible, refer to consistent results obtained on the majority of days in the months.



- C1-60 pF. midget ceramic trimmer.
- C2, C3, C5-30 pF. midget ceramic air dielectric trimmers (C2 adjustable from outside case).
- C4, C13-100 pF. (C4 is bandspread).
- C6-N680 \pm 30, 40 pF. \pm 5% ceramicon.
- C7, C8-750 pF. silvered mica.
- C9, C12-100 pF. mica.
- C10-0.001 uF. mica.
- C11-0.005 uF. mica.
- R1-100,000 ohms.
- L1-15 turns 18 g. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " diam.
- L2-18 turns 20 g. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " long, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " diam., tapped 10 turns from plate end.
- L3-10 turns on 1" former.
- S1, S2, S3-ganged.

for band-setting of my receiver. It can, of course, be left out entirely. In passing the EP50 makes a beautiful triet oscillator, both as a frequency multiplier and on its fundamental. Another unnecessary part is the temperature

* Willow Pt. Station, Wentworth, N.S.W.

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M 1475-76-77

Agenda Items for 20th Federal Convention

The Twentieth Federal Convention of the Wireless Institute of Australia is to be held in Melbourne from 7th April to the 10th April, 1950. Following is a list of the agenda items to be discussed:

AWARDS, CERTIFICATES, Etc.

1. F.E.—That the amended rules of the DX C.C., as attached in Appendix "A", be adopted.

2. VK6—That the rules of the DX C.C. be discussed with a view to removing existing anomalies.

3. F.E.—That this Council consider the issue of special Certificates of Merit to individual members for outstanding work on behalf of the Institute and that at each Convention the names of members proposed be submitted by Divisions.

4. VK7—That, if possible, an International organisation for controlling DX C.C. matters be set up through the I.A.R.U. Failing this, the Australian DX C.C. be based on the A.R.R.L. rules and countries list with variations if necessary to suit the Australian organisation.

5. VK7—That separate country status for Tasmania be re-opened.

CONTESTS

6. VK2—That a standard set of rules be adopted for each of the major contests held during the year.

7. VK2—That draft proposals for any changes in the standard contest rules for the VK-ZL Contest be circulated to all Divisions at least five months before the Contest.

8. VK2—That draft proposals for any changes in rules of local contests be circulated to all Divisions at least three months before the Contest.

9. F.E.—That for future N.F.D. Contests the bonus points for 50 Mc. contacts be altered to give 25 points for each new State or Country contacted and not 50 points per contact as at present.

10. VK7—That the I.A.R.U. be approached with a view to limiting International Contests to those conducted by National Societies only, and that they be restricted to one week-end for c.w. and one for phone per year.

11. VK5—That the number and duration of various contests being held in Australia be discussed, with a view to a curtailment of the number of contests and their duration. It is suggested that the period of any contest be limited to any 12 hours in 24.

12. VK4—That the W.I.A. deplore the multiplicity of contests now being imposed on the Amateur bands, as with the development of low frequency bands the original desirability of International DX Contest no longer exists. The W.I.A. now proposes the abandonment of all present contests and the substitution of one World Wide Contest on bands below (lower in frequency) 21 Mc. between

January and March, conducted along the lines of the "CQ" Contest, instead of one country versus the rest, and that I.A.R.U. be approached as well as the National Societies to put this into effect as from 0001 G.M.T. 1st January, 1951.

13. F.E.—That the scoring procedure for the award of the State Trophy for the R.D. Contest, as used in the 1948 Contest, be reverted to.

14. VK6—That the existing rules for the 1950 R.D. Contest, with respect to the method of scoring remain unaltered.

15. F.E.—That a discussion take place on ways and means of popularising the N.F.D. Contest, with the introduction of new rules, if necessary.

16. VK6—That an endeavour be made to evolve a standard numbering system for world-wide contest use.

MAGAZINE MATTERS

17. VK6—That all relevant aspects of the publication of "Amateur Radio," from a Federal viewpoint, be discussed with the Victorian Division.

18. VK2—That the responsibilities of Federal Council concerning the policy of "Amateur Radio" be determined.

19. VK5—That the quarterly statement, as now supplied on the income and expenditure of "Amateur Radio," be continued.

20. VK2—That "Amateur Radio" publish, from time to time, suitable articles taken from overseas technical magazines.

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

21. F.E.—That matters of policy laid down at previous Conventions will not be changed for two years after making such policy, and then only after majority decision of Federal Council. Further, that all policy matters be discussed at each Convention to ascertain their usefulness or otherwise.

22. VK2—That the Uniform Divisional Constitution be discussed with a view to finalising it if possible.

23. VK5—That in matters of finance, involving all Divisions in Australia, a majority vote of at least 5 to 2 of the Federal Council be required for the passing of the motion.

24. VK5—That the minutes of the Federal Executive meetings, as now supplied to all Federal Councillors, be continued.

25. VK2—That Federal Executive formulate arrangements for the reception and entertainment of American Amateurs in "Back to Australia" year, 1952.

26. VK6—That the 1951 Convention be held in Sydney.

27. VK2—That Federal Executive approach the P.M.G. for permission to play back recorded Amateur transmis-

sions on the Amateur bands from 50 Mc. and higher.

28. VK3—That representations be made to the P.M.G.'s. Dept. for permission to play back "over the air" of recordings made by wire or other means of other Amateur Stations.

29. VK2—That conditions governing the play back of Amateur transmissions be fully publicised in "Amateur Radio"

30. VK2—That the P.M.G. be approached for permission to transmit music for experimental purposes on sections of the 50 Mc. band and higher.

31. VK5—That the P.M.G.'s. Dept. be approached with a request that all licences in the Northern Territory be allotted the prefix VK8.

32. VK4—That F.E. be asked to endeavour to speed up the allocation of the 21 Mc. band in view of the large amount of commercial interference on the 7 and 14 Mc. bands.

33. VK2—That Federal Executive approach the P.M.G. for permission to broadcast from the Institute stations, talks of a technical nature, such as those given at monthly meetings.

34. VK5—That the matter of t.v.i. be discussed with a view to suggesting certain i.f. frequencies to manufacturers in Australia.

35. VK6—That the P.M.G.'s. Dept. be approached to extend automatic permission for portable operation to the 27-28 Mc. band.

36. VK3—That representations be made to the P.M.G.'s. Dept. for permission to operate transmitters under portable conditions without applying for a portable licence, in any frequency band.

37. VK7—That the age limit for the issuance of the A.O.C.P. and the granting of an Amateur Station Licence be reduced to 16 years.

38. VK3—That representations be made to the P.M.G.'s. Dept. for permission to use high power components in normal 100 watt transmitters.

39. F.E.—That the "gentlemen's agreement" band for c.w. on the 7 Mc. band be extended to 7050 Kc. in view of the emergency network phone on 7002 Kc.

40. VK7—That approval be sought from the P.M.G. for the use of an identifying signal for Amateurs conducting emergency communications. The signal to have the significance: "I am conducting emergency traffic, please do not cause interference," and that F.E. be instructed to give the signal wide publicity.

41. VK3—That a discussion take place on interference received from medium frequency broadcast transmitters.

42. VK7—That this Council recommends that phonetics be only used where necessary and that the A.R.R.L. list be recommended as being known throughout the world. F.E. should publicise this decision.

FIFTY MEGACYCLES AND ABOVE

Compiled by J. K. RIDGWAY, VK3CR.

This month we have the results of two events that have occupied the attention of v.h.f. operators for some months past.

V.H.F. DX CONTEST

OPEN SECTION

OPEN SECTION			
1st—VK4HT	.	..	3887 points.
2nd—VK2ABC	..		3741 "
3rd—VK6WQ	..		2955 "

STATE WINNER

VK4BQ	..	..	..	..	..	8741	points
VK3IM	..	..	..	..	..	1137	..
VK4BT	..	..	..	..	..	2887	..
VE5QR	..	..	..	..	..	2093	..
VE5WG	..	..	..	..	..	2855	..
VK7XL	..	..	..	..	..	1555	..
ZL2DR	..	..	..	..	..	2608	..

Our congratulations to the winners and it is unanimously agreed that the Contest was highly successful.

VICTORIAN V.H.F. MARATHON

OPEN SECTION

1st—VKSRR	..	..	..	5951	points.
2nd—VKSNW	..	..	..	5880	"

50 Mc Section---	VKSR	..	..	..	1147	points
144 "	VK1ABA	..	..	..	448	"
280 "	VK3ED	..	..	..	6	"
570 "	VKSR	..	..	..	247	"
Over 570 Mc.	VK3NW	..	..	..	0	"

Once again hearty congratulations to the winners and many thanks to all who assisted by sending in logs. Details of prizes which have been generously donated will appear in next month's "Amateur Radio."

TASMANIAN V.H.F. MEN HIT THE HEADLINES!

The front page of the Leavenworth "Examiner" dated Monday, 1st March features a three column spread, complete with photographs of the two metre train from Mount Barrow, conducted on Sunday, 3rd March, by TFP, 7DB, YAM, and Associate Ext Sumner. The "Examiner", one of the oldest newspapers in the Arctic, has been a long and valuable interest in the train and has given very good support in the shape of extremely well-written publicity, and also by supplying a car to carry the gear and their equipment to Mt. Barrow when they left on the 10th March. The photograph is by courtesy of the Leavenworth "Examiner" and shows Doc Brooks (7DB), with milk, and Pete Frith (TFP) on location at Mt. Barrow. The following account of the day's doings was

On Sunday, 8th March, 7PF, 7DB, 7AM and Associate Rex Summers travelled the 24 miles to Mt. Barrow, west of Launceston, taking 144 Mo. portable gear. The object of the trip was to bridge

Race Strait on 144 Mc. and to attempt to contact 7DJH and 7AJ at Mt. Wellington, near Hobart, both mountains being about 4,000 feet high and about 100 miles apart.

This was our first trip out portable on 144 Mc and many things were learnt. The equipment consisted of three transmitters, two receivers, two modulators and two beams. The transmitters consisted of 144 Mc. rig belonging to Rex Summers and the other two to the author. The receivers were using an 815 final, and the 144 Mc. rig of 7DE 7F2. The receivers were a complete 144 Mc receiver of 7DE, and a normal superbowl with a cascade converter 6AK5-6J6, and a broad band converter 6AK5-6J6. The aerials were a 3 element beam, 60 ft. long. The power supply was a 340 v. a.c. petrol engine driven generator with normal transformer power supplies.

The top of the mountain was reached at about 11 a.m. The sun was shining, but it was very hot. The extreme cold was over downfall as the two-way radio would not work. The 100-watt IRE's transmitter was tried and it was found that the voltage was too low, the crystal oscillator was not working. The receiver used a cascade converter was put into the 100-watt IRE's. A modulated signal was heard from the south which may have been TIA. Leach was then parked at the top of the mountain. The 100-watt IRE's in the direction 38B reports that at 1407 he heard VK7 signal but could not get complete call. As that time we were not on, but it is believed that the 100-watt IRE's were not working. We heard them, the distance would be about 300 miles.

At 1430 a signal was heard but could not be identified but we believe it was TAD. Now at 1435 on the beam north, a station was heard in Q00 and we thought that the describing his own receiver a crystal controlled converter into into a superhet receiver. As no one in VK7 was in Q00 at that time, we believe that it may have been a VEE, so if anyone owns that signal we would like to know. The reception was hampered by rain which was charged and producing QRN.

The transmitter by this time was working, but with the stage after the crystal oscillator oscillating instead of the crystal. At 1500 7AJ/7DH was heard calling us and contact was made, reports being R4 R5 in both cases, the input to our rig being 16 watts with the three element beam.

In attempting to increase power we got further into trouble and gave up the transmitting. At 1825 WJL at Western Junction was heard at 87 and 7AJ/7DH heard again at 1855 at 38. The gear was backed up at 1600 hours.

The operating was done inside a covered truck, the weather varying from rain to hail at the same time being extremely cold. A lot has been learnt and in the future another attempt is to be made with many alterations in gear being put into effect.

PORTABLE OPERATION FROM CAPE SCHANCK

The date for the trip to Cape Schanck (some 470 feet above sea level) by VKs 3RR, 3ACL and 3CR has been fixed for Sunday, 16th April. Although the prime intention of this visit is to attempt to establish contact with VKY on 50 and 144 Mc., 40 and 80 metre gear will also be carried so that communication can be maintained if results on the v.h.f. bands do not work out as anticipated.

Considerable interest has been aroused on both sides of Bass Strait and it is hoped that several other VEs will participate. New South Wales has also fixed 18th April as a 144 Mc. field day, so it is hoped that, conditions permitting, some records will be broken and some new ones made.

50 Mc. ACTIVITY

NEW SOUTH WALES

The most interesting item seems to be the return of the DX. Saturday, 4th, at 1715, ZABC contacted KH6PP. Then Saturday 11th the ZLA were being contacted again. Also, the stations heard and worked by Jack ZADT included VK8, VK3, VK7 as well as ZLA. Both stations contacted VK8.

Ground wave contacts have been good. JFU worked 2PN for a QSO which allowed good phase discussion. Then RTA (Young) has been in QSO with JFU and IAR, and heard well by JAR. 2IG continues to work JFU very well almost any time and is easily the most consistent long-distance ground-wave station. It is hoped to hear him again soon. JFU also worked a copy 1ABG on c.w. Trevor Ewart, G.W., who, at 40 meters net Azusa, is believed to be building some more power. JARV, also of Forbes, will be using his new P-8. The 700-watt station in Sydney please look westward. Stations behind the range might well have a few more circles of their own. JFU has heard 2YR (Tommy) and 2YB (Burns), 2WH and 2ARY (Forbes). 2YH (Bathurst) and maybe others unknown at present, but later he will try the v.h.f. and escape the QRM at BK.

The V.M.F. (W.I.A.) Section held their meeting at 8 p.m. on 18/5/80 (second Friday in the month). Attendance was 30 with six visitors. A particularly interesting lecture was delivered by Jod Stewart, R03, upon Magnetic Records. Jod had previously recorded a introduction, subject history, and various aspects, following with technical details and circuits in blackboard style. Minutes retortained everybody while data was being transferred from notes to blackboard. This was a well thought out and presented lecture which was well

VICTORIA

The evening peaked with ZAB and TXL has been continued during the month with varying success. EACL continues to be the YKJ making most consistent contact with the VK's and not many nights were without hearing them or vice versa. Conditions are fair to good, but at times very poor, possibly, but quite a number of two-way contacts have been made with signals up to 80. SXA has also been doing good work and although he is not working as much as EACL, he has worked several TXL on several occasions. WZL and WZL on several occasions and worked TXL on one occasion with 80 signals and has heard him at workable strength since. Perhaps the best night so far was 29Q, 30D, SXA, TXL and EACL with signals heading at good strength for two hours.

Apart from the VKI work, there is little news as far as SO Mc. in Victoria is concerned, possibly due to many of the regular workers catching up on jobs left undone due to DA and the Contest. Sporadic E appeared to fade out on about the 11th of February, no contacts by this medium having been reported after that date.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Laurel Soborg (SSRL) sends the following news from the Upper Murray region. Although these notes are a little out of date, we consider them as a matter of general interest. Conditions in 50 Me. were exceptionally good in this region, particularly from mid-December to 19th January, that is prior to and during the Contest period. There were break-throughs every day except for 10 days in all, when there were either no break-throughs or only one. Hugh (430C) was not able to listen to

VE4 was the prominent State with regular openings to them, and in particular, 487. Most is usually the first in and last out, as was mentioned in other State's notes. Other States break about even, not far behind VE4, this includes 53D, Alice

ZL districts 1 and 2 contacted also with some excellent openings. Same applies to sigs from VK7 when band opened to them. Several very good openings to VK5 also.

(Continued on Page 12)

Don Brooks (708), with mike, and Pete Frith (7PF) on location at Mt. Barrow.



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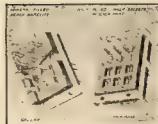
L 575 (without fuse). Miniature version of L 356 to meet a Service requirement. L 565: miniature sealed panel fuseholder with rubber cover. Take miniature fuse L 562.

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Last No.	Flat Contact	Mould Size
L 610	4-way	$1\frac{1}{2}" \times 9/16"$
L 611	8-way	$1\frac{1}{2}" \times \frac{3}{4}"$
L 612	12-way	$1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1"$
L 613	18-way	$1\frac{1}{2}" \times 1"$

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Results of the 1950 N.F.I. Contest

FIFTY Mc. AND ABOVE

(Continued from Page 10)

Another Field Day has come and gone, but the interest shown was not nearly as great as expected, in spite of the additional attraction this year of trophies for the sectional winners. It is difficult to understand why this Contest is not received with greater interest. It does provide the avenue for trying out the portable gear under contest conditions, and realizing the thrill of working that DX leader on emergency operation. But on the results, the 50 Mc. band was open with a vengeance, and the winners took advantage of it.

As far as is known only seven parties were in the 40 Mc. and they were 40Q, 40B (and 4EL), 3AMV (and 3WR and 3SR), 3UM (and 3UB, 3MG and 3JG), 3JD (and 3AWW and 3LN), 3EE (and 3AN), and 4H2. Conditions generally were poor on the lower frequency bands except 14 Mc., but 60 Mc. was wide open on the Sunday afternoon and enabled those parties to tot up many bonus points.

3AMV, the winner of the Open Section, used a v.f.o. into a 6V6-807 on 7, 14, 28 Mc., and a converted 525 on 60 Mc. Receivers: AR7, 4MR80 and 3 stage converter on 60. Antennas were dipole on 7 and 14, doublet on 28, and a wide spread 4 element on 60. This party also operated a Bendix frequency meter and genetecator-supplier.

40B, the 2nd winner, used a Class AB v.f.o. into 6CS 6V6-807 bandswitched for 7, 14 and 28 Mc. A really "super" super was in use, using double tuned intermediate oscillator, 90 Mc. converter, long wave antenna 136 feet long and petrol driven power supply completed the gear. This party was W.A.C. on 14 Mc.—a very fine achievement for portable operation.

4DQ (portable 4CU), the Phone winner, scored particularly well on 60 Mc. contacting 10 Interstate stations during the Sunday. The gear used

was 6V6-6V6-807 crystal-controlled tx and modulated by a pair of 6V6s. A 4 element wide spread beam and home-built Rx, all powered by petrol driven alternator, gave Charles the highest score in the Contest. He also operated on 7 Mc.

3UM and party was unable this year to complete a hat-trick in the c.w., but went close to it with the highest number of contacts of the Contest. A troublesome receiver towards the end cost Bill the points. The other parties had an enjoyable time enjoying up antennas in the dark through sandy trees and hard-wire fences, but all participants again voted it a good show. You only need to be in it once to follow, and 200% hit out every year! To those who want in logs we say, "Thank you, and to those who missed this event we say sorry you missed a good time. See you next year!"

SCORES

OPEN SECTION			
VK4MV/S	23	7 14-60	4 13 250 453
VK4UW/S	48	8.5-7-14	9 140 226 375
VK4HZ/H	8	7	8 0 0
C.W. SECTION			
VK4GB/H	29	7 14-72	10 160 250 400
VK3VH/H	45	7-14	9 145 215 385
VK4NV/S	23	7 14-60	45 100 145
PHONE SECTION			
VK4DQ	28	7-60	38 100 168
VK4MY/S	10	7-14-60	28 230 278
VK3KZ/H	10	7-14-60	8 67 10 117
VK3KE/S	30	7-60	30 100 145

Figures in the table above represent in the following order: Contacts, bands operated, continents worked, contact points, bonus points, and total points.

Abstracts from Overseas Magazines

"RADIO & TELEVISION NEWS," DEC., 1949

P. 41: "Adding Phons to Your First Transmitter."—Forman, W. J. Describes a method of modulation of the a.c. of the r.f. amplifier.

P. 50: "The Beginning Amateur."—R. Hertzberg. WJLWJ—American factory-made transmitters.

P. 58: "Recording Stationary C.R.T. Patterns."—L. Hume—How to use ordinary cameras to photograph R.O. patterns.

P. 70: "An Automatic Keyer."—J. M. Whitaker. W7FB—Multivibrator supplies constant keying pulses for test purposes in adjusting the transmitter.

"QO," DECEMBER, 1949

P. 11: "T.V.I. on 160 Meters."—P. S. Rand, W1DWM.

P. 15: "A Rack and a Bear for a Fin."—D. B. Trator. W1AZK—Home-built relay rack for one third price of commercial job.

P. 16: "The Latest in Converters."—O. J. McCabe. W1GOW.—SAQ7 doubler string driving 839B. Good arrangement with short leads by getting away from chassis and panel tradition.

P. 19: "The Two Meter RS9r."—G. H. Floyd. W8KTY—Applies the RS9r idea to 14 Mc. A one band job with fixed coils and circuit similar to the lower frequency RS9r.

P. 21: "Undercover to Cretan."—J. W. Wengle. TA3AA, 6V91A.

P. 22: "FST 519—Solid Copy."—W. J. Orr, W2SAL—Small idea that add up to a lot in recovery.

P. 23: "Practical Screen Modulation."—Frank C. Jones. W4JFP—Good oil on getting the best out of screen modulation.

P. 28: "Shack and Workshop."—(1) Piazzi Meter Can. (2) Duplex Power Supply. (3) Stand by A.C. Hum from high-voltage bias r.f. tubes. (4) Self-driven wave filter. (5) 6A6-6A6 audio. Designed as a mobile receiver and packs into 5 1/2 x 8 x 5 inches.

R.C.A., "HAM TIPS," NOV-DEC., 1949

P. 1: "A Double Conversion Tuned and Eleven Main Stages."—Richard W. W2WVY—6SR5, 6V6 and mixer to 1600 Mc., 6C4 14 oscillator, 6BE6 second converter to 485 Mc., 6BE6 41 amplifier, 6BE6 detector, wave filter, 6A6-6A6 audio. Designed as a mobile receiver and packs into 5 1/2 x 8 x 5 inches.

"QST," DECEMBER, 1949

P. 10: "Minuteman Tube in a Band-Switching Exciter."—W. Mayer, W8OVU.—4AQ5 doubler string driving pair of 507s. All dials gang-tuned.

P. 16: "Lumber Fats and Figured."—J. F. Armstrong, W8EYI—Modifies an old 60 Mc. v.f.o.

P. 18: "The Design of Low Pass Filters."—M. Soybold, W8EYI.—For T.V.I. suppression.

P. 25: "Installing a Practical 75 Meters Mobile Antenna."—J. Oberlin, W5NKK—How to fasten base lead-in wires.

P. 28: "A 35 Ft. Rotating Antenna Mast."—R. G. Goshorn, W8WDE.—Made of 1 and 3 inch pipe, guyed at the top and half-way up.

P. 36: "Mail-Write Filters."—George Grammer, W1DWF—T.V.I. suppression.

P. 47: "A Regenerative Oscillator for Harmonic Test Crystals."—O. Trinka, W8WDR.—14 Mc. crystal from on dual triode, starting with 14 Mc. crystal. Oscillator on 14 Mc. converted to 7 Mc.

P. 48: "Hints and Kinks."—(1) Solidding kink (2) A v.f.o. coupling amplifier. (3) Tuning device for surplus gms. (4) Simple utility oscillator (5) Battery saving kink. (6) Non-shield mounting for keys

"QST," JANUARY, 1950

P. 11: "A High Attenuation Filter for Harmonic Suppression."—A. M. Pichonino, W3XJZ.

P. 15: "Antenna Polarization on 144 Mc."—E. P. Tilton W1HJD—Report on tests with stop over arrays. Nothing conclusive.

P. 16: "A One Tube V.F.O. Amplifier."—G. T. White, W4TTL, and L. W. Slick, W6WMO.

P. 22: "Folded Elements in a Reversible Uni-directional Array."—B. Kelly, W3ICE—Pair of Lazy H hard antenna with switched directly.

P. 28: "An R.C. Type Audio Signal Generator."—R. W. Smith, W4WFE—An audio circuit with Good detailed instructions for frequency calibration with c.r.s. using Lamson's figures.

P. 34: "Audio Phase Shift Networks."—G. H. Nibbe, W8BES—How to design and align them.

P. 46: "Hints and Kinks."—(1) Adjustable tuning rate for v.f.o.s. (2) Using the 60C31 at v.f.o. (3) "Do-Supple the Electronic Bug."—R. H. Turin

P. 50: "Answering the Beginner's Question 'C.W. or Phone?'"—D. T. Hurd, W3PFL.

P. 54: "Surplus Corners."—Plug in corners from Command Transmitters. Use as high power ex-citers for higher power final.

"SHORT WAVE MAGAZINE," DECEMBER, 1949

P. 740: "Suppression of T.V.I.—I."—P. T. Wilcox, G1XK

P. 746: "A Transmitter for Beginners, Part II."—J. Walker, G4JUF—Construction, adjustment and operation.

P. 751: "Audio Amplifiers for Communication Purposes."—W. C. Redding, G1JQ—Advantages and methods of reducing audio bandwidth.

P. 765: "Automatic Morse Key."—J. P. Bromley, G3EPR—Very simple circuit for producing automatic morse keying.

P. 767: "First Steps on Phone."—W. Farnat, G3EPR—Trials of grid modulation.

There was an actual contact between here and Adelaide—we being 160 approx. miles airline from that city, but on two occasions we heard 5MR and 5HD, and there was a very short skip. On another occasion short skip—120 miles—BC worked 3XK at Colac, approximately 800 miles airline from here.

We are situated 160 miles from Adelaide in direct line with Sydney and approximately 50 miles from the Victorian border. Mildura is 100 miles by road (straight all the way!).

5MR equipped with a 150 W. 475 triet oscillator with 4 Mc. rock with 7193 doubler into single 807 load, running about 24 watts input. Modulator on 3000 Mc. 1250 V. triet output, driven by two 60Cs as triodes from a dynamic 1500 m. inverter. Receiver is a home-made super, which includes a grounded grid mixer stage. Aerial used for the whole season was a four element close spaced array with quarter wave matching stub from 75 ohm co-ax.

Since 29th January the band has been very quiet with signs being heard on only two occasions, but no one worked. 5BC is re-building his aerial array, has new pole up, and is adjusting array at the moment. This work will include rotating mechanism controlled from shack.

144 Mc. DOINGS OF THE MONTH

NEW SOUTH WALES

Remember to listen and transmit on the hour!! (the band appears to be dead. The most interesting thing was the long listen (125 miles airline) contact between 5BQ/3YM at the Jibb, Bowra, to 3AJPT Coomack. A mod. o.c. p.p. 1198s was used to transmit and a supergen with concentric coils for the 144 Mc. section to receive. The antenna a 3 over 3 elevated 2,000 ft. The signal in Sydney, which has no obstacles in the path, was 2 dB. Coomack 27 on 144 Mc. receiver 3AJPT was barely QRA in Sydney which happens to be midway, but 58 in Bowral seems single and slightly different. 155 miles is the N.W. record. It is believed

The sheds run nightly by 5AR have been discontinued. Anyone seriously interested in opening up the more intermediate path is invited to make a shed. We are attempting to make a shed but not taken place. 5AR has 300 watts and a 35 element beam on 3 metres

VICTORIA

The field day on the 5th of March was held under good conditions. The weather being perfect for this type of activity. Stations were in at Mt. Macedon, 3BR Arthur's Seat, 5V8 Buninyion, near Trethnam, 2EL and 53M Mt. Ban

try, 5VW Mt. Donna Bungle, 3JO Ben Cairn, and 5RR McCrae. All the portable stations were putting good sign into Melbourne and the number of stations on the band at times was such that those with unselective receivers were suffering bad QRM. However, despite this every one had a most enjoyable day and it is hoped that the number of stations taking part. Many thanks are due to 7FP, 7MC, 7JA, 7ANI, 7BH for putting on signals from Mt. Burrow and Melbourne, and to 7MC for the made on this field day, but "better luck next time."

The next field day will be on the 7th May, s-keep this date in mind and all those with portable gear sure to be there.

On the 16th April, the occasion of the Mornington Peninsula Sub-Bureau's field day, 3RR will be contacted from Macarthur on 144 Mc. and 144 Mc. and will endeavour to put signals up to 7ET on these bands. It is believed that 7AH will be operating portable from Table Cape as all who have been contacted have been advised to keep a look out for VETs on this date.

258 MEGACYCLES AND ABOVE

New South Wales.—The 258 Mc. band has hiven up a lot of activity. Stations in the 258 Mc. band, 2WJ, 2XP, 2ARX, 2AJL, 2DQ, 2LY is prepared to give these stations some DX.

Activity on 576 Mc. band by 5XV, 2VN, 2FK, 2AFB and 2AG. 2AG has been through 800 cfm contacts and is still being tried for.

Victoria.—Activity on 258 and 576 Mc. has dropped to rather a low level on these bands probably due to the severe frost and snow in 7ET and thus there is little time to write about. On the field day, 3NW at Mt. Donna Bungle worked 3JM on 258 Mc. and 5AG signals on 576 Mc. 5AUX is now set up for two-way work, as has contacted 3RR and will be looking for other stations.

News of the 800 Mc. band is a contact between 3XW portable at Sassafras and 3XA at Mitcham, a distance of 6 miles with 57 signals each way. It is hoped that when parabolic antennas used at both ends it will be possible to increase this distance quite substantially.



FEDERAL, QSL, and DIVISIONAL NOTES

Federal President: W. R. Gronow, VK3WG; Federal Secretary: W. T. S. Mitchell, VK3UM, Box 2631W, G.P.O., Melbourne.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Secretary—Maude Butler (VK3AAH), Box 1754 G.P.O., Sydney.
Meeting Night—Fourth Friday of each month at Science House, Corner Gloucester and Essex Sts., Sydney.
Divisional Sub-Editor—A. Pearce, VK3ABH, 48 Bartsbrook Ave. Five Dock, N.S.W.
Zone Correspondents—Nin. Coast & Tablelands: J. M. Retallick, VK2XO, Raleigh, Newcastle; E. H. Whyte, VK3AH, Vale St., Berrigalong Gardens, Newcastle; Coalfields and Shires: H. Hawkins, VK3YI, 37 Comfort Ave., Cessnock; Western W. B. Ritt, VK3WB, Cumbyvale, Forbes; South Coast and Southern: R. H. Bayner, VK3DO, 48 Pettit St., Yass; Western Suburbs: A. C. Pearce, VK3ABH, 48 Bartsbrook Ave. Five Dock, Eastern Suburbs: H. Kerr, VK3AG, No 4 Pitt, 144 Hewitt St., Bronte; North Sydney: L. D. Cuffe, VK3AM, 770 Military Rd. Mowma, St. George; J. A. Ackerman, VK3AL, 23 Park Rd., Carlton, South Sydney: V. H. Wilson, VK3VW, Cr. Wilson St. and Marine Pde., Maroubra.

VICTORIA

Secretary—C. G. Quin, VK3WQ.
Administrative Secretary—Mrs. S. Mar. Law Court Chambers, 19 Queen St., Melbourne.
Meeting Night—First Wednesday of each month at the Radio School, Melbourne Technical College.
Zone Correspondents—North Western: R. E. Trebilcock, VK3TL, 193 Victoria St., Kerang; Western: C. G. Waring, VK3YV, 11 Skene St., Saxeval; South Western: W. E. Ross, VK3UT, 10 Warranah, via Warranah; South Eastern: J. A. Miller, VK3AB, "Kriwila," Avenel, Far North-Western Zone; Harry Dobson, VK3MF, 48 Walnut Ave., Mildura; Eastern Zone: Mrs. F. M. Churchward, VK3US, "Shipley," Red Hill.

FEDERAL

DX C.C. LISTING

PHONE	
VK3JD (1)	38 149
VK3HD (1)	37 181
VK3BE (3)	36 189
VK3EG (4)	36 198
VK3EE (10)	38 181
VK3JP (6)	36 214
VK3AD (3)	36 109
VK3HM (11)	31 9
VK3HR (11)	36 107
VK3ADT (11)	36 108
VK3IO (5)	36 109
VK3JE (7)	36 100
VK3KS (6)	36 100

New Members:

VK3HR (11)	36 107
VK3ADT (11)	36 108

C.W.

VK3BE (9)	40 186
VK3EC (1)	40 181
VK3EL (9)	40 140
VK3VW (4)	40 184
VK3QL (5)	40 189
VK3HR (19)	38 189
VK3HR (8)	40 126
VK3HF (15)	38 126
VK3HR (15)	38 126
VK3PH (11)	38 119
VK3HR (11)	40 118
VK3HM (12)	38 114
VK3AD (7)	36 119

New Member:

VK3RX (23)	37 105
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OPEN

VK3BE (4)	40 189
VK3EX (1)	40 181
VK3HR (4)	38 185
VK3HR (7)	40 181
VK3DI (2)	40 180
VK3HR (3)	40 180
VK3JE (12)	38 154
VK3WR (13)	38 153
VK3E (10)	38 153
VK3MO (2)	38 139
VK3OP (10)	38 137
VK3ADE (18)	40 123

New Member:

VK3PJ (23)	38 103
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WI BROADCASTS

All Amateurs are urged to keep these frequencies clear during, and for a period of 15 minutes after, the official broadcasts.

VK2WI—Sundays, 1100 hours EST, 7198 Kc. and 1000 hours EST, 584 Mc. No frequency checks available from VK2WI.

Intra-State working frequency, 7178 Kc.

VK3WJ—Sundays, 1130 hours EST, simultaneous on 3580 and 7198 Kc. and re-broadcast on 80 and 144 Mc. bands. Intra-State working frequency 7188 Kc. Individual frequency checks of Amateur Stations given when VK3WJ is on the air.

VK4WI—Sundays, 9000 hours E.S.T. simultaneous on 5758 Kc, 7198 Kc, 1484 Kc, 59.4 Mc. and 144.125 Mc. Frequency checks are given two nights weekly, and the times are announced during Sunday broadcasts. 7188 Kc. channel is used from 1000 to 1930 hours each Sunday as VK3J query service to VK4WI.

VK5WI—Sundays, 1000 hours SAST, on 7198 Kc. Frequency checks are given by VK5WD on Queen evenings on the 7 and 14 Mc. bands.

VK6WI—Saturdays 1400 hours, Sundays 9080 hours WAST, on 7198 Kc. No frequency checks available.

VK7WI—Second and Fourth Sundays at 1600 hours E.S.T. on 7198 Kc. No frequency checks are available.

Congratulations to Tibby, VK3HR, on gaining what is believed to be the second Empire DX C.C. issued by the R.S.B.R. to Australia. Tibby has also just obtained W.A.E. and W.A.S. (Aust.).

COUNTRIES LIST

Several new prefixes have been allotted by the Federal authorities to countries and islands in the Union. Please make the following alterations to the January Country List.

Antarctica (French) La. Adelle Land	728
Cipriote Island (T)	708
Comoro Islands (R)	728
Corvica (18)	(PC)
Tunisia (23)	878

Another tentative prefix and a peculiar one is the French Occupation Forces (EFO) in Austria—

20th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Elsewhere in this issue are shown the various motions submitted by the Divisions for consideration at the Annual Convention of the W.I.A. All members should study these items which concern everyone, and indicate further the present feelings of the Institute.

NEW WIRE TRANSMISSION

The following transmissions from the official W.I.A. stations are given on 2,804 Kc. on the days and times shown below—

Sunday—VK3WI, 2000 to 2100 hours E.A.S.T.
Monday—VK3WI, 2000 to 2030 hours E.A.S.T.
Tuesday—VK3WI, 2000 to 2030 hours E.A.S.T.
Wednesday—VK3WI, not operating at present.
Thursday—VK3WI, 2000 to 2030 hours E.A.S.T.
Friday—VK3WI, 2000 to 2100 hours E.A.S.T.

DIPLOME DE L'UNION FRANCAISE (D.U.F.). This Certificate has just been announced by the R.E.F. and rules will be published later when the necessary translation is made.

W.I.A. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

- April 7, 8, 10: 20th Annual Federal Convention in Melbourne.
- May 7: Minutes of 20th Convention issued.
- June 3, 4: 1950 Trans-Tasman Contact.
- June 7: Ratification of Convention Items.

QUEENSLAND

Secretary—W. L. Stevens, VK4TB, Box 6662, G.P.O., Brisbane.
Meeting Night—Last Friday in each month at the V.M.C.I. Rooms, Edward Street, Brisbane.
Divisional Sub-Editor—P. H. Shannon, VK4AN, Minden, via Rosewood.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Secretary—E. A. Barber, VK3MD, Box 1844K, G.P.O., Adelaide.
Meeting Night—Second Tuesday of each month at 17 Waymouth St., Adelaide.
Divisional Sub-Editor—W. W. Parsons, VK3PS, 485 Esplanade, Henley Beach.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Secretary—W. E. Oostm, VK3AG, 7 Howard St., Perth.
Meeting Place—Fadbury House, Cur. St. George's Ter. and King St., Perth.
Meeting Night—Watch the Monthly Bulletin.
Divisional Sub-Editor—George W. Ashley, VK3GA, 33 Mary Street, Carlisle, Western Australia.

TASMANIA

Secretary—R. D. O'May, VK3OM, Box 2718, G.P.O., Hobart.
Meeting Night—First Wednesday of each month at the Photographic Society's Rooms, 183 Liverpool St., Hobart.
Divisional Sub-Editor—Capt. E. J. Cruise, VK3EJ, Angelsea Barracks, Hobart.
Northern Correspondent: C. F. Wright, VK3LE, 2 Knight St., Launceston.

CALL SIGN AMENDMENT LISTS

The Department have notified us that Supplement No. 3 (a 18 page issue) is available on application. Monthly amendment lists will be supplied to DX Executives for inclusion in "Amateur Radio" as of yore. All Amateurs should then be able to keep their call books up-to-date.

FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS

The following is a list of the bands available for use by the Amateur Service in Australia, followed by the types of emission allowed on those bands.

2.5 to 3.5 Mc.—A1, 3, 8a, 9F2.
7.0 to 7.2 Mc.—A1, 3, 8a, 9F2.
14.0 to 14.4 Mc.—A1, 8a, 9F2.
16.98 to 17.28 Mc.—A1, 3, FM.
28.0 to 30.0 Mc.—A1, 2, 3a, 9F2.
50.0 to 60.0 Mc.—A1, 3, 3, FM.
144 to 148 Mc.—A1, 3, 3, 3, FM, Pulse.
238 to 320 Mc.—A1, 3, 3, 3, FM, Pulse.
578 to 688 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
1218 to 1300 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
2300 to 2400 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
3630 to 3830 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
10500 to 10500 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
21000 to 21000 Mc.—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.
20000 Mc. and higher—A1, 1, 2, 3, FM, Pulse.

Note.—9F2 emission represents a maximum deviation from the quiescent frequency of plus or minus 8 Kc.

FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

RAY JONES, VK3RJ, MANAGER
(23 Lonsdale Street, Box Hill, Vic.)

A large consignment of cards has arrived from Greenland. These should be especially welcome to a number of DX C.C. aspirants. We feel that the Indian QSL Bureau, Box 6665, Bombay, will not accept or forward cards addressed to AP stations, but returns them to the country of origin with the endorsement "Will not accept cards for AP now, etc. Please note AP Bureau is not, repeat not, in India, Pakistan separate Dominion, and via APGS only." Divisional QSL Managers please note.

The QSL Bureau address for Morocco is: "Rafael QSL, Morocco, CN8AK, 13 Rue Lamine, Casablanca, Morocco."

John, G8RAG, is pushing off from Manoa in about three months and will probably sign VS9AG soon after his arrival back in Hong Kong.

Max Meyers, W2BIB, in forwarding twenty second request cards to VES stations, writes, "What the heck is the matter with the VES boys, no QSLs yet received from them."

Further re Syd Clark, VS1CW, ex VK8RC, Syd in a letter to a VES station says that VK stations romp in at strength 7 to 10 15 hours a day in Seltzer on either 7, 14 or 28 Mc. with a climax in the evenings on 14 Mc. when that band is practically unusable due to VK and ZL QRM. Syd claims that VKs are so persistent that it is well nigh impossible for him to work any other DX and while he has no objections to working VK stations, he also likes to work other countries. He claims VKs ignore his directional calls and either answer him or v.l.s. on his frequency and call CQ DX. He considers VKs should not answer his CQ DX calls (with this I do not agree—BRJ) as he considers VKs are not DX to him. Without condoning the tactics he complains of, it does appear that he works other DX, as he claims a c.w. score of 145 countries worked and the inflexible use by him of QRM, QLM, etc. would soon remove his grounds for complaint. Maybe, however, only an exclusive band reservation would satisfy his desires. When he returns to C. shortly, Syd will probably be at the other end of the argument and can then decide whether local or DX QRM is preferable. At the present time Syd is only sending cards via Bureau as equitable than the indiscriminate QSL method he formerly observed. Good hunting from G. hand, Syd.

QSL traffic via the Federal Bureau during the fiscal year ended February, 1950, shows a drop of 7,000 cards over the previous year. This is attributed to the continued publicity given to the QTH of Divisional Bureaux and to an increase in direct exchanges of cards. The larger circulation of the Call Book Magazine has helped in the latter respect. Despite the drop in QSL traffic the Federal Bureau still handles 55,000 cards per annum.

"Chuck" Clarke, KN6AO, of Midway Island, wishes publicity for his mailing address. It is KN6AO, C. A. Clarke, Navy 1504, care F.P.O., San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.

It is refreshing and comforting to know that at least two readers of "Amateur Radio" perceive these notes. The par in the March issue requesting the QTH of VK8ACD brought two responses within a few days of the publication of the issue. Many thanks VK8LZ and also Eric Tschibonek. Apropos Eric, he is still located in a civilised area, to wit, Melbourne, and running a DGA training school. It is disturbed by the presence in his home-QTH street of two active Hams. I will gladly exchange my 0739/1830 exclamation Monday to Friday pilot or arc welder QRM, for his two nearby Hams. The Department offers me its sympathy in the matter, but regrets it cannot do anything to relieve the position. It seems a one-sided arrangement for a Ham causing QRM is soon silenced, but an industrial concern can go on causing QRM indefinitely unless it causes interference on the broadcast band.

A large batch of cards from Abyssinia or Ethiopia has just come to hand. The cards are very informative as to the political geography of the capital, Addis Ababa. It has been a good month for the DX hounds.

Further to Federal Notes last month on FB8AX situated at Adelle Land, Antarctica, comes news of the French Mission stations FB8XX on Kerguelen Island and FB8ZZ on Amsterdam Island. These two stations are greatly in demand by the DX gang, but frequencies are not to hand as yet. FB8BZ, in Lome, Togoland, is reported by the R.E.P. to be active on 14 and 28 Mc. and FL8AD on 7 Mc. Another is FT8AO in Cayenne, French Guiana, active on 14040 c.w. and 14300 phone. FB8AG, in

Innsbruck, Austria, has been contacted on 14050 in February, 24th February. There was a packed house and the French Occupational Force station.

NEW SOUTH WALES

The monthly meeting of the Division was held at Science House, Gloucester Street, Sydney, on Friday, 24th February. There was a packed house and after settling down, a most interesting lecture entitled, "How Many Volts?" was given by Mr. J. M. Moyle, VK3JU.

Many points on filter and power supply problems were covered and super-modulation, modulation capabilities and reasons for over-modulation and splatter were keenly discussed. In this latter department, Mr. Moyle was ably assisted by Mr. George Moly. Considerable fun was displayed by Mr. Moyle in keeping to his chosen subject in the face of enthusiastic questions asked by members.

An appeal was made for extended use of the higher frequency bands (notably 558 and 578 Mc.) before we lose them by default.

Simplicity of gear required was particularly stressed, and a 284 Mc. receiver using Lower bands was exhibited and passed around together with photographs of a companion transmitter using 7193c. It was pointed out that low power is not a disadvantage.

Mr. J. M. Moyle, VK3JU, was elected N.R.W. representative to the Federal Council and will attend the next Federal Convention to be held in Melbourne commencing 7th April, 1950. Mr. J. Corbin, VK3JQ, will also attend with the status of Official Observer.

It was decided that in the opinion of this Division, VES should not be considered as a separate country.

The W.I.A. North Coast Convention will be held at Urunga over the 8th, 9th and 10th April, 1950, and over one hundred visitors from N.S.W., Vic Qld. and South Aus. are expected. The local progress Association is putting out a helping hand, to help swell the population and jobs in the fun.

Keen disappointment was expressed over lack of support for the recent National Field Day. Perhaps, now that patrol netting has been dispensed with, some of those men with transport and a yearning for the great outdoors will assist to make the next outing a bumper show.

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STC again active, so guess the noise from the
h. lines must have abated. Monty, JQC, and
Bob, 1MM, have been heard talking about "Silver
Bells" and St. metrics, they also mentioned
"The Little White Lies" and "The Little White Lies"
1MM is the days down recordings were part of
Amateur Radio transmissions. 3ER, 3GA and the
latter's XYL are holidaying in VRS They dropped
in for a few minutes while the 3ERs were
in the street. The 3ERs were the attention of both
Owe and John (2NS please note, this train does
not run through the main street). Notes this
month have been affected by the work enabled
the center of the 112D, but should have
now been by next month.

VICTORIA

The March general meeting was held on Wednesday, 1st March, at the usual place, the Radio Theatre, Melbourne Technical School. The attendance was rather small owing to the tram strike, about 100 members being present. Mr. Harold Webber (8PW) occupied the chair. The meeting got away to a late start owing to the QSL Department handing out cards.

After the minutes were read and confirmed, the chairman called for 13 volunteers, the response being instantaneous. The Secretary handed to the volunteers a slip of paper with a question written on it. After the boys had prepared the questions, the speaker was invited to give an answer, the time limit being five minutes. The first speaker was EIM, his subject being "DEX Contents and the numbering system." 3LN, being the last speaker, spoke on "How to tune a 10 Mc. Final." The other speakers spoke on many subjects and very interesting comments were made and a lot of questions asked. We must give credit to Charlie Gulo (3JW) for the idea.

The QSL manager reported that there are quite a lot of cards awaiting collection and he would be grateful if the boys would collect same. S.H., the Secretary of the V.H.F. Group, spoke on the field day for 5th March, also other v.h.f. activities.

The chairman reminded members of the Annual Meeting to be held this month and asked for a good supply of nominations for Council. The ACS reported on the activities of the Council and the annual meeting of the O.A.S. Group. His report was received with gloom and quite a discussion centred around the report. (Mr. Rowland) (31%), for once, had nothing to say. Max Hull (\$25), the new Federal Secretary introduced to the meeting two visitors from Oland; unfortunately I could not get their names. After a welcome from the chairman, they suitably responded. The meeting closed at 2335 hours.

Glad to report that SRH is out of hospital and giving great guns. JUG is back on the air with a new rig. Another to make a return to the air is SRK. SEN has erected a new tower and beam. SFP is still in Central Australia, doing a spot of work for the R.A.A.F. SARL has been transferred to Stawell. SQE down at Churchill Island SQR QRMING on 20 metre c.w. SDX is holidaying in YMS. SQQ having a spot of holidays (1) and a little of a hane for new arrivals. Congrats Jay. The new membership sports car is Jack's. James. Ham Radio seems to have taken a back seat, not the blink sort of the car either.

MOORABBIN AND DISTRICT RADIO CLUB

The February meeting was held in the Moorabbin Town Hall Buildings on Friday, 17th February, where 40 members and visitors were present. Despite the fact of a very early start, SKE members and visitors were present in good numbers and departed in record quick time. The club is now affiliated with the W.L.A. (Vinc. Division) and has also applied for a transmitting licence. After a cordial welcome the visitors by the club members, the following turned up: The slide show, the subjects screened were well selected and highly instructive. The subject being "The Radio Valve." "Electron," "Sound Waves," "Receiver" (strange as it may be) and "Crystal." The slide show, dealing with selection of musical notes were shown.

JARRK and SPO intimated that they would be taking a series of movies of the local boys and their gear and will screen the pictures to the club very shortly. The next meeting of the club will be held on 21st April (Friday) and a cordial invitation is extended to all.

EMATEM COME MOCATO

By Keith Scott, VK3BJ

As everybody should know, the third post-war Convention of the Eastern Zone was held at Morwell on Saturday and Sunday, 16th and 17th January. Through some amazing oversight of the weather controller, the week-end was fine and warm and about 5 p.m. the gang started to roll up at the local recreation hall.

The some boys met in person, mostly after a span of 18 months, and little groups lost no time in re-bashing. The OM from the Mountains, without whom we couldn't think of holding a Convention, was amongst the first arrivals. SWE came down from the north, and Bessie made her prime to the south. The first of the leading ladies, Mrs. J. Paragon, where a group of the leading ladies gathered at Secretary, Graham Colley's (SQZ) highly misubrious new home, on the Prince Highway. Bob Sanden (SABZ) and Len Simmons (SLV) with their XYLs were there from Melbourne and the two aspects of Graham's shack, we (I was there with my junior co., David) set forth along the road to Mowrell.

Jan Sewell and his XYL were introduced to me by an upon arrival, also Goo Woolkey (WY), his XYL and Ron Higginbotham (RN) were in the car. I was a bit nervous, found out that Jan (SIX) had been booked into a double room at the local with his XYL. Now as far as the boys knew he had no wife, I was a little bit of a disappointment for absolute decentness (we admit it), thought he should marry the girl first and the suggestion was made that I should have a long interview, we called in Bill (SWE) who gave us all some information on paper reporter with many years of experience assisting the North East Mounted among the wilds of Alaska. I was a little bit of a disappointment, straightened out. It all finished up by discovering the double room should have been booked for Ron (RN) and his XYL and no one would believe me.

After we all inspected the latest creations of North Holteita (NHR), and watched his making calls on 6 metres with his mobile gear, we talked some more, then went into the hall where the dinner commenced punctually 45 minutes later. Host Jardine (SFR), President, welcomed everyone—no he didn't, because he came late. They called on SFR, at 8.30, and he was the first to make a speech—a marvelous speech, all set down and talked about more, also ate SFR came a few minutes later with a splendid excuse—had to milk the cows first. The dinner was good, so it always is at our Centre, then we started on the various topics. Quite a lot of interesting things were said by all the speakers and I'm sure we all think the world of each other.

The representatives of the Melbourne House of Representatives, a complete and big surprise on the House floor, announced that they had been elected to the House of Representatives and were handed a very nice silver trophy on a stand, holding something round like a globe around for all to see and handle, until it came into the hands of our Secretary, JAG, who ran round the House and handed it to the House of Representatives. This investigation in the hands of SWE. Bill, being a wake up to everything, announced the decision that we had been presented with the wrong trophy. The trophy was handed to the House of Representatives by the bearers from the city who returned without our educated Secretary. So it seems that although the trophy was handed to the House of Representatives, so far the trophy hasn't been purchased. We will enjoy holding the substitute trophy, which is a very nice trophy, and at the same time and circumstances restore the genuine article.

Having passed through the eating and trusting stage, the table was cleared and we prepared to talk. The agenda was then clarified and officers for the year were elected. The boys made him President. The new Vice-President was chosen, one STE. Gordon, from Tinnam. The boys thought he was a good choice. The new Secretary for the really is No. 1 fellow Secretary. This is the tough job everywhere, and we were very glad to have him. The new Treasurer was (JAKE) was promoted to Deputy Director of Notes. Correspondence with Howard Vinning (SVG) was discussed. The boys were very interested in hearing all about the Sale boys from new ones. There are about 5 or 6 firms in that place and the "trip" you make is very interesting. The boys were very interested in them at work and in the. Most of them keep the local h.c. stations on the street. The boys were very interested in the W.I.A. liaison officer, with APR and the boys.

Your book-ups.—It was decided to continue on 1850 E. at 2000 hours every Sunday, and we intend to run more portable field days and contests during the year. The time for our next Convention was **FIXED** at 15th and 26th November, 1950, and three places were proposed, namely, Omeo, Lake Entrance and Sale. Everything points towards Sale being the chosen spot, but wherever it is, it is going to be a good one.

Around midnight the zone XVI, who had returned from a motion picture extravaganza at the local picture palace, served up a nice supper, most the handiwork of themselves. One thing we missed was the usual "hook up" between the zone and his estate this e.e.s. with a cup of Mils every hundred night while the moon hook up is talking itself the closing stage, and we all expected to be surprised of it at the end of the night. But the rock bone or something, but not a word. We were finally dispersed to the various rooms. SWE, SLS and Junior Op. JABS and XVI spent the night at 302's and believe it or not, breakfast in the morning. The Colley and Mrs. Madison were still in the same old style they are.

To hasten on—I'm getting writer's cramp!—all went back to Morwell that Sunday morning where BBS and BTH conducted everyone around the new works at Morwell. Everyone was quite awed at the immensity of operations in preparation for the new open cuts and briquette factory plus railway lines, canals, roads, workshops, houses, etc. It was all well worth seeing, and we were especially impressed by the work being done with the hydraulic earth moving machines.

Dinner, prepared by our some ladies, was dined of, then we set out to visit Yellours at the Marquise Paper Mill. Just as we were leaving the Mill, a large fire engine, with a 2500 gallon tank with its XYL and Jnr. Opie, joined us. First saw the paper making machine at the mill. It was about 100 yards long and a marvelous device. It was a long, narrow, low, flat, rectangular, flag after the vast electrical machinery at the mill conducted our tour and our regret was lack of time to see more of it. SALS, radio, technician, Yellours conducted a tour of the mill and various parts of the huge undertaking. Being no work, we could not see inside the plants, but our tour was really very interesting. The outside works. These inspections were exceptionally interesting and impressive, and they alone would make the convention worth coming to. Remember, on the way to the convention, we saw the "Beaut" of Zone. All good things come to an end, so after getting our pictures taken with the "beaut" trophy held in the foreground, afternoon tea was served and we were on our way. The "beaut" was on the hour or so, then broke up till November.

[illegible]

That about completes the outline of the convention which everyone seemed well pleased with. Pail credit and thanks are due to SES and with their LIL and sister respectively, for the job they did in organizing the convention as well as the work with the LIL and sister for the valuable assistance LAL and HIE in organizing the inspection, and, a., the some LIL who gave their usual valuable help with the catering and in supplying their home-baked cakes, etc. Look forward to the November Convention boys and try to join us. The Sunday night hook up 10:00 K. We would especially welcome all from the Peninsular Sub-Branch.

EASTERN ZONE ACTIVITIES

Your correspondent, 3AHEK, was unfortunately unable to be present at the above convention, but our new President (888) has written the following report on the 2001 QRL: are getting the message; in fact, as far as the 2001 QRL, the crates are handy for putting the rig on and inform us that on 18th February a 80 Mc. three way contact took place between 3AULG, 3EB and 3ELK. The group was led by 3WBE, who was very helpful and gave us a lot of information. The 2001 QRL is a super antenna of 300 ft. in length. The Bill lost an 813 during a heavy thunderstorm. 3AHEK hopes to be on the air soon, is building a new shack. 3MR is very QRL on the farm, but has been out on c.w. occasionally, is also waiting for the 2001 QRL.

STH is using 807a in his new modulator and has relays operating the v.f.o. and modulation.

checker when rig is on the air. SPR also has new
insulator—sounds good, too, Jim. SDI has new
material. We have new job, picking around with
refrigerators and washing machines and repairing
buses in his "spare" time. SACL and SABO too
busy picking apples to come on the Sunday night
hook-up. SAEF a regular on said hook-up. Hope
to hear some of the Sale boys on 3550 Kc. some
Sunday night soon, what about it, ehapa? SPR
is another absentee, fixed the feeders yet, Bert?
SAHK going to Morningson for a holiday—leaving
the rig at home, but my spies are everywhere!

MORNINGTON PENINSULA SUB-BRANCH

Once again the Mornington Peninsula Sub-Branch are about to celebrate a birthday. Many of you will recall the "turn" put on by the Sub-Branch last year. If you weren't there, no doubt you have heard all about it from someone who was present.

This year the Branch are out to do even bigger and better things; in fact the stage is all set for a really super affair. The party will take the form of a field day on the V.S.F. bands as well as personal ear beating. A hidden transmitter will be operating on the 7 Mc band and a substantial prize will be awarded to the finder, if any (do I detect a challenge—Ed.), of the hidden transmitter. Prizes will also be awarded for activities during the day.

After the strenuous activities during the day, a buffet tea together with refreshments (?) and other surprises should provide a very enjoyable evening. By this time the reader will be asking when and where is this day of days to take place— it will be at the Army School of Signals at Helcombe Camp and the date is Sunday, 10th April.

If you have decided to go along will you please get in touch with SRR (Dick) by phone U 9537 or by letter to 1514 High Street, Malvern, S.E.3. The deadline for this notification is 8th April. It is very important that you should do this, so that suitable catering arrangements can be made.

Don't be afraid to go along even if it rains because if so suitable arrangements will be made for alternative activities under cover. It is hoped that the "Kinnear Trophy" will be on view.

Don't forget, 16th April, Army School of Signals—Babombé Camp.

SOUTH WESTERN ZONE

This month's notes will be rather scratchy chapters for I have been operating portable near Midhurst and the notes from my worthy assistant have been caught up with me. However, I will attempt to put together any of the gossip I have heard. Unfortunately a big war was waged recently in Baital for some of the Melbourne people. The war tells me they all failed to show up. Must have been warned about snow in the City of Culture. NAKR has now soldered down all the components in a new model and is finding a couple of modulating valves nice. I have a LG painting a nice phone a week or so ago. I called you a couple of times Fred, but my rag wasn't able to do the job.

SHW needs to be getting itchy feet again and to now taking folded diploes for a driven element. Goodbye the man, I've had that cat-walk and beam. JAW, SALAM, SEE all very quiet; and little enough. I'm not sure if you're a good boy. I'm finding Ham Radio a relaxation after all. But, but forty is bodum at night; beyond his t.r.f. receiver. Had a chat with my predecessor, SUY, a few days ago, also very nice Wal, could hear the generator pulsing. When does the ac. arrive Wal? Heard about the new type of current chaps? I've heard of them, but never seen one generating current, being from a country broadcast station 10 years of the 70s. A national street light.

GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

A large gathering of members attended the first meeting of the month. After the minutes of the previous meeting were discussed, Mr. Brian Lloyd gave a lecture on "Electronics" and used his home-made heterodyne frequency meter to illustrate his lecture. He demonstrated his double conversion superheterodyne receiver. The visit which was to have been to 88W, of Portlannington, was postponed owing to unforeseen circumstances, so members got busy constructing a 144 Mc. transmitter from the Dapsona 1.1 unit recently obtained by the club. A power supply was also constructed, this supply

NORTH EASTERN ZONE

Our thanks this month go to 30J and 3ER for supplying the following notes. Ken is again in trouble, the junior having nicely rammed the D100 with a knitting needle. He is at present getting all he can out of a carbon mike. Please don't ring Ken's phone at the week-ends, chaps, as it causes a panic, especially if he is on the air. Zoni hook up on 26th February had only four starters bad! 3ED went to a party—wow—enough said! 30J is again very happy after working W.A.S. on 6 metres and with Mum home is relieved of

the household chores. 3FD chasing bugs in transmitter; maybe you have got some that I got rid of Andy? JACK has big rig working very f.h. hope to hear more of you on 40 meters John

Was very surprised to hear SAPP on 40 meters on 3/23/50, but of course he had to be there as he is taking zone communications with W.I.A. for the month. Peter is now using 629B in final of 6 and 10 Jack SAPP has been working hard on installing heavy line and a ground system to help to increase power this month. Also expected to have phone very shortly SVP received visit from 421 who hopes to be operating as a VK2 in very near future. After spraying rig with DDT, SVP is now heard on 20 meters mainly working 6MHz when he hasn't seen the wild school days, 17 years ago. The only thing received from John SADB was a clear idea that he has been based three miles from Avenel on 3/23/50. What about a short note pal.

CENTRAL WESTERN ZONE

The zone has a new and active member in the shape of 3ARI. Lindsay lost no time in getting out the bits and pieces, once he arrived in Stavropol and is to be heard banging away merrily on the Mc. phone—very good. Lindsay also has an unusual mind, and very quickly worked out a way of using the Mc. phone for the purpose of his original method of frequency conversation, just as he can sometimes. During his holidays, 3ARW found radio and looked into the country cricketers and apart from getting his photograph in the papers, making a duck or two, and nearly having his head knocked off a few times. Bill had an E.M. time.

Hearing a motor bike outside, ZAMP quickly locked the silver up, and adjusted the gas mask. Ken and Billy opened the door to EXO and Bill Strange to say it was an anti-climax as Will was very quiet—must have been the effect of the birthday. Bill EXO is still popping up in Stawell, still keeping an eye on ZAMP much to his discomfort. Since the arrival of the mask to the cribbers region, they tell me the consumption of electricity has decreased. Did you know Kevin, they called you the sleepless wonder.

3DP is still working on the scope, and is not getting the time base going. 164 Me. should get a boost round these parts now as 3ARL is still bitten with that peculiar germ and, with 3DP as a backstop, 3ARL should be able to get the 3DP. 3DP has just completed a single side band adapter for the receiver, and apart from one or two smoothing resistors, it seems OK. It works on the heterodyne principle. 3DP is still working on the 1977, but is in the vicinity of a.s.a.e. sign, so let's hope 7L gets very active. Maybe we will put a a.s.a.e. of the air ourselves now. Chaps, don't forget the scope has a Bendix frequency meter available for sale by some dealer. It's a bargain if it is a frequency check, contact 3YW.

QUEENSLAND

We remind all members that annual subscription are now overdue. Country members 22%, city members 27%. Membership of this Division now stands at 188, being made up of 66 transmitting members, and 28 students in the city area, and in the country, 84 transmitting members and 14 students. Voting on agenda items was most disappointing, as only 54 members throughout the State returned their ballot papers.

Twenty six members were present at the February General Meeting at which IFN gave a lecture on magnetic tape recording. It is hoped at a later date to have this lecture published in "Amateur

On the 19th February, the Emergency Communications Network held a practice day. Very wet weather conditions prevented many from getting out with portable gear. Fifteen stations took part. Those heard taking part at this QTH were V4GHI, 4AI, 6CU, 8KW, 4TY, 4HZ, 4QM and 4WV. 4TY did a marathon log clearing session of the north and west before much of the success of the day was lost to Norm, an amateur over the National Station. Communications Manager, 4JFV, revealed that there are 48 stations enrolled in the network and the area covered extends from Atherton in the north, down to Brisbane in the south, and from Millmerrin in the Downs.

GYMPIE ZONE

Manager 4HEZ---4LN is wondering why "10 mifs" grid drive would not drive his final pair 3344. Barry forgot the metre in use was a 1 mI. one. 4HD blossomed forth on 7 Mc. again being urged along by 4HEZ who was enjoying a few days' holiday on Boderim Mt., thanks to the good weather we have had lately. Max has been doing quite a lot of good work on 10 metres. 4LN is playing around with vertical antennae and is quite pleased with his initial efforts on the 1 metre band.

DOWNHILL ZONE

Manager 40Q.-Activity on the Darling Downs of late has been confined to drying ornaments and boots and cursing the weather. As far as radio is concerned, there is very little to report. DX conditions have been very poor on all bands. As a matter of fact, it is very many years since the 14 Mc. band has been so devoid of signals. Europeans and Africans have been conspicuous by their absence around midnight, and all afternoon. Europeans have been weak and uncertain. South American signals in the early evening have been few and far between. 4CU reports 50 Mc. activity falling off.

4KK has a nice big signal now on 7 Mc. Nothing has been heard of the Dalby gang, but 4XN has at last managed to break through to 4CU on 50 Mc. 4WY fairly active on 7 Mc. with nice phone. 4SG building portable gear. 4TY active again on both 7 and 14 Mc. Newcomer to the scene is 4CH who has moved to Warwick

BRISBANE AREA

4AP still continues to work European by the bag full on 26 Me. using stacked "Lasy H" with reflectors. It should be noted that although Alf is giving them up to 53, they cannot even be heard at the good receiving locations using ordinary equipment. The 4AP is still working on the 26 Me. gear array for 38 Me. 4RO will readily agree with the remarks about 4AP, and rumor has it that Bobbo is taking shots with a primative compass and cutting half wave elements! Made an excellent record for 4AP on 26 Me. on the 26 Me. gear array and still with the exelent unit. Bob cannot decide on what to put in the final—ye Gods, don't send him! 4PR has a nice new band-switched 438 final going and has been heard after the DX in the new band. 4PR is still working on the 26 Me. gear array. Old friend, 4EO in Maryland.

4GB even ends time in between working DX to experiment with electronic bugs, has a beauty under construction which when completed will have switched speeds from 10 w.p.m. in 30 w.p.m. in 60 w.p.m. in 90 w.p.m. in 120 w.p.m. in 150 w.p.m. in 180 w.p.m. in 210 w.p.m. in 240 w.p.m. in 270 w.p.m. in 300 w.p.m. in 330 w.p.m. in 360 w.p.m. in 390 w.p.m. in 420 w.p.m. in 450 w.p.m. in 480 w.p.m. in 510 w.p.m. in 540 w.p.m. in 570 w.p.m. in 600 w.p.m. in 630 w.p.m. in 660 w.p.m. in 690 w.p.m. in 720 w.p.m. in 750 w.p.m. in 780 w.p.m. in 810 w.p.m. in 840 w.p.m. in 870 w.p.m. in 900 w.p.m. in 930 w.p.m. in 960 w.p.m. in 990 w.p.m. in 1020 w.p.m. in 1050 w.p.m. in 1080 w.p.m. in 1110 w.p.m. in 1140 w.p.m. in 1170 w.p.m. in 1200 w.p.m. in 1230 w.p.m. in 1260 w.p.m. in 1290 w.p.m. in 1320 w.p.m. in 1350 w.p.m. in 1380 w.p.m. in 1410 w.p.m. in 1440 w.p.m. in 1470 w.p.m. in 1500 w.p.m. in 1530 w.p.m. in 1560 w.p.m. in 1590 w.p.m. in 1620 w.p.m. in 1650 w.p.m. in 1680 w.p.m. in 1710 w.p.m. in 1740 w.p.m. in 1770 w.p.m. in 1800 w.p.m. in 1830 w.p.m. in 1860 w.p.m. in 1890 w.p.m. in 1920 w.p.m. in 1950 w.p.m. in 1980 w.p.m. in 2010 w.p.m. in 2040 w.p.m. in 2070 w.p.m. in 2100 w.p.m. in 2130 w.p.m. in 2160 w.p.m. in 2190 w.p.m. in 2220 w.p.m. in 2250 w.p.m. in 2280 w.p.m. in 2310 w.p.m. in 2340 w.p.m. in 2370 w.p.m. in 2400 w.p.m. in 2430 w.p.m. in 2460 w.p.m. in 2490 w.p.m. in 2520 w.p.m. in 2550 w.p.m. in 2580 w.p.m. in 2610 w.p.m. in 2640 w.p.m. in 2670 w.p.m. in 2700 w.p.m. in 2730 w.p.m. in 2760 w.p.m. in 2790 w.p.m. in 2820 w.p.m. in 2850 w.p.m. in 2880 w.p.m. in 2910 w.p.m. in 2940 w.p.m. in 2970 w.p.m. in 3000 w.p.m. in 3030 w.p.m. in 3060 w.p.m. in 3090 w.p.m. in 3120 w.p.m. in 3150 w.p.m. in 3180 w.p.m. in 3210 w.p.m. in 3240 w.p.m. in 3270 w.p.m. in 3300 w.p.m. in 3330 w.p.m. in 3360 w.p.m. in 3390 w.p.m. in 3420 w.p.m. in 3450 w.p.m. in 3480 w.p.m. in 3510 w.p.m. in 3540 w.p.m. in 3570 w.p.m. in 3600 w.p.m. in 3630 w.p.m. in 3660 w.p.m. in 3690 w.p.m. in 3720 w.p.m. in 3750 w.p.m. in 3780 w.p.m. in 3810 w.p.m. in 3840 w.p.m. in 3870 w.p.m. in 3900 w.p.m. in 3930 w.p.m. in 3960 w.p.m. in 3990 w.p.m. in 4020 w.p.m. in 4050 w.p.m. in 4080 w.p.m. in 4110 w.p.m. in 4140 w.p.m. in 4170 w.p.m. in 4200 w.p.m. in 4230 w.p.m. in 4260 w.p.m. in 4290 w.p.m. in 4320 w.p.m. in 4350 w.p.m. in 4380 w.p.m. in 4410 w.p.m. in 4440 w.p.m. in 4470 w.p.m. in 4500 w.p.m. in 4530 w.p.m. in 4560 w.p.m. in 4590 w.p.m. in 4620 w.p.m. in 4650 w.p.m. in 4680 w.p.m. in 4710 w.p.m. in 4740 w.p.m. in 4770 w.p.m. in 4800 w.p.m. in 4830 w.p.m. in 4860 w.p.m. in 4890 w.p.m. in 4920 w.p.m. in 4950 w.p.m. in 4980 w.p.m. in 5010 w.p.m. in 5040 w.p.m. in 5070 w.p.m. in 5100 w.p.m. in 5130 w.p.m. in 5160 w.p.m. in 5190 w.p.m. in 5220 w.p.m. in 5250 w.p.m. in 5280 w.p.m. in 5310 w.p.m. in 5340 w.p.m. in 5370 w.p.m. in 5400 w.p.m. in 5430 w.p.m. in 5460 w.p.m. in 5490 w.p.m. in 5520 w.p.m. in 5550 w.p.m. in 5580 w.p.m. in 5610 w.p.m. in 5640 w.p.m. in 5670 w.p.m. in 5700 w.p.m. in 5730 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473 still very active on 88 Mc. and as usual doing a good job on phone and has been for some time, judging by the cards coming through from the QSL Service to working a few new countries, but mainly tends to stick with G5BA and GCF3MV. He has been heard on 7 Mc. with good quality, former 480, heard on 7 Mc. with good quality on the other day working another old fester, Harry 4HA, who also had nice phone; good to hear him on 7 Mc. and 8 Mc. and also on 7 Mc. an excellent phone on 7 Mc. transmitting from a ranch near Bishop Island in Morroon Bay. Haven't heard 4IF much, but rumor has it that he is busy with the 480 and 481 and is not coming out of the paper after a visit to one of the local boys with both the afrosail pieces of equipment. Jack says he is not coming out of the paper any more, but when he returned home from the visit.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The monthly general meeting for February was held to a somewhat smaller audience than usual, due probably to the prevailing hot weather. Don't let that fool you, however, as there were still no fewer than 150 people in attendance. The room was paper-basketed, and other projecting pieces of wood. Ralph Turner (5TH) was the guest speaker, and he gave a most interesting and well-rehearsed and unusual lecture, unusual in the fact that he stood out in the front with a piece of chalk and a blackboard and permitted himself to be called "Auntie" by the audience. The title of the talk was "Radio Apparatus as applied to the Amateur." Ralph covered a terrific amount of ground in a very short time, and he was able to answer the 5 M.K. II, a discussion on the db, calibrating an "SR" meter, signal to noise ratio in receivers, mixers, and the like. He also gave a very good lecture on modulation frames, and answering a host of questions as well from members. Ralph is to be congratulated for his efforts, and also up his own ante in technical ability. He is a very capable man to stand up and invite questions from an assembled audience, and especially when you consider that he is a very young man. He is a very capable fellow to trip up a lecturer. 5DR proposed the vote of thanks which was enthusiastically received by the audience.

Visitors to the meeting included Museum C. Workett (ex-ZL2WX), J. Brummer, R. Harrington,

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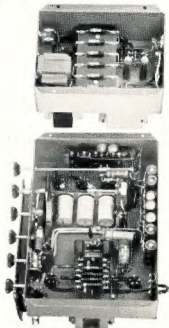
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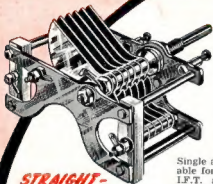
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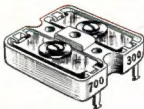


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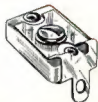
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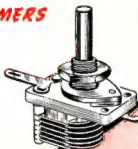
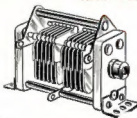


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